



# Bill Horn's

# News and Reviews



5th District Supervisor, County of San Diego

Spring 2004

## Primary Election 2004

The County's new electronic touch-screen voting system had its first test during the Primary Election on March 2, 2004.

"Unfortunately, we didn't have the level of excellence normally seen in County elections," said Supervisor Horn. "Thirty-six percent of the County's 1,611 polling places did not open on time and voters were turned away. That is unacceptable and we are taking steps to see this doesn't happen in the November General Election."

Supervisor Horn's request for an investigation into Election Day problems gave the public a chance to share their experiences during a Board of Supervisors meeting March 16.

The Board has given Diebold, the manufacturer of the machines, a July 1 deadline to conform to Federal and State certification requirements. A County election review board issued the first in a series of reports on March 10. It recommended improved training, testing, communication, tighter security and contingency plans that include back up ballots.

The County of San Diego was ordered by the federal government to replace its punch card voting system.

## Weathering the State's financial storm

Strong winds and heavy rain the morning of February 26, 2004 were the backdrop for our annual State of North County Address at Lake San Marcos Country Club. The weather served as a metaphor for what the County of San Diego is struggling with in dealing with the State's budget crisis. Sacramento wants to permanently shift \$1.3 billion from California's 58 counties' remaining property taxes to balance the state budget. For the County of San Diego that amounts to \$55 million.

Minutes before Supervisor Horn's address the skies cleared, perhaps symbolic of his determination to serve the people with fiscal leadership and accountability. Part of that responsibility is a fight to keep the state from ordering the County of San Diego to provide new services unless it pays for them. Supervisor Horn believes that when the state mandates a program, and doesn't put up the money in 180 days, the Board of Supervisors has the right to not offer the program.

The County of San Diego has also filed suit against the State of California for failing to reimburse the County for \$31 million in mandated programs. The suit asks the courts to find that the State has violated its own Constitution.

In the chart below, you can see what has happened to the property taxes you've paid since 1975. It's outrageous that less than 20% actually comes back to Counties and Cities.

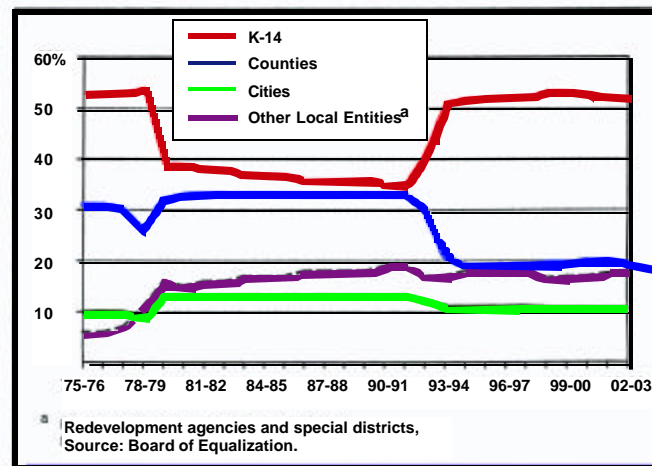
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Horn delivered his State of North County address at Lake San Marcos.

### Property Tax Allocation Over Time

Percent of Property Taxes Allocated to Local Agencies



Many thanks for the tremendous work of the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce for hosting our State of North County Address. Nearly 200 people were there to hear our report and vision for the future.

Part of that vision is to get increased representation for the unincorporated communities by having a permanent voice on the Board of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). This is the public agency that controls all regional transportation planning. Chairwoman Dianne Jacob joined Supervisor Horn in winning support of the

## Rural Lands Initiative defeated!

### *Supervisor Horn honored as local Elected Official of the Year*

On March 25, 2004, the Republican Party of San Diego County honored Supervisor Horn as its Local Elected Official of the Year with the 2004 Golden Elephant Award. At an awards dinner, Supervisor Horn was thanked for his role in educating San Diego County voters about Proposition A.

### *General Plan 2020*

Proposition A, the Rural Lands Initiative was soundly defeated by nearly two-thirds of the voters in the March 2004 Primary Election.

"I expected the voters to see through the lies and distortions of Proposition A, and they did," said Supervisor Horn. "Now the County of San Diego can move forward to complete its General Plan 2020. We have a process to determine land use policy that has had public input, impartial analysis and comprehensive environmental impact reports."

## Horn condemns State's money grab

Supervisor Horn was among a group of county leaders to hear Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger speak at the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Annual meeting in Sacramento. The governor's plan to help pay off the State's monstrous budget deficit includes taking \$55 million from San Diego County property taxes.

"Everyone . . . has to tighten the belt," Schwarzenegger said. "There are too many strings attached to the dollars that come from Sacramento. . . I want to change that and restore local control."

After the meeting, Supervisor Horn who serves as San Diego County's representative on the CSAC Board of Directors said, "I don't see the state tightening its belt." Supervisor Horn called for consolidating State agencies, prison reforms and cuts in school administration, among other savings.

"I was encouraged when Governor Schwarzenegger said he wanted local governments to keep control, but control of what?" said Horn. "When you take all of our money away, what's the use of local control?"

## "Round, round, get around, they'll get around"

In a "roundabout" way, the County of San Diego is closer to mitigating traffic concerns in Rancho Santa Fe and Fairbanks Ranch. Two years ago, Supervisor Horn suggested roundabouts as a possible solution to traffic concerns there.

A County Traffic Advisory Committee has now agreed. After unanimous approval by the Board of Supervisors, County staff is working with local associations and will return to the board within 120 days with suggestions on methods to fund the design, construction and maintenance of the roundabouts.

"It has been most gratifying to be part of a community problem-solving partnership," said Supervisor Horn.

Roundabouts offer similar benefits compared with stoplights and stop signs, except traffic flows better. By using grass and flowers for a safe and graceful way to navigate intersections, roundabouts can enhance community character and could be a model of traffic control throughout the unincorporated county.

Roundabouts have been approved along Paseo Delicias at Via de La Valley, El Montevideo/La Valley Plateada and El Camino del Norte in Rancho Santa Fe. Roundabouts for Fairbanks Ranch will be along San Dieguito Road at Circa de Norte and Circa del Sur.

Public and private funding opportunities are being sought to complete the project.

### *Did You Know? Supervisor Horn was . . .*

- ◆ A Soap Box Derby Racer
- ◆ A Private Pilot
- ◆ A Surfer
- ◆ A Youth Soccer Coach
- ◆ An Agricultural and Financial Advisor in Israel

### **STORM from page 1**

Board of Supervisors to seek an additional seat on the SANDAG Board. A Supervisor who represents the unincorporated area would hold it. Efforts are now underway to have the state legislature amend SB 1703, the ill-advised "brain child" of former State Senator Steve Peace that established the current SANDAG structure in 2002.

Better representation for the rural areas is better for everyone. More often than not, freeways, highways, roads and streets do not begin or end with city limits. Freeway gridlock knows no boundaries and a pothole is no respecter of one's home address. To solve our regional transportation planning needs, the perspective of unincorporated

area residents is a vital ingredient. Right now, nearly 460,000 people live in the unincorporated county, and currently District 5 and 2 share the majority of unincorporated residents. By 2030, that population is projected to approach 700,000.

Those voices need to be heard at SANDAG's table.



## Interfaith Community Services comes to Oceanside

Supervisor Horn was the keynote speaker at an unusual ground breaking in Oceanside for Interfaith Community Services on April 1st. The Escondido-based organization that provides food, clothing and rent assistance to needy people is expanding its outreach to Oceanside.

A 9600 square-foot former auto parts store is being converted to house the new facility, so instead of breaking ground with shovels, 14 dignitaries with hammers in hand lined up and nailed two wooden beams together.

To help with the capital campaign, Supervisor Horn presented a check for \$40,000 from District 5's Community Projects Fund to Jerry Horton, President



**If I had a hammer . . . wielding the hammers to celebrate Interfaith's expansion into Oceanside.**

of Interfaith Community Services, bringing the total District 5 contribution to



**\$40,000 for Interfaith. Supervisor Horn, Suzanne Pohlman, Interfaith's Exec, and President Jerry Horton.**

\$75,000

The opening is planned for summer.

### Investing in our own backyard: Allocation of community projects funds in the Fifth District

Included in more than \$380,000 of community projects funds, the following allocations were made in the 5th District:



**De Luz volunteer firefighters.**

- ♦ \$50,000 - De Luz Volunteer Fire Department and \$25,000 - Sunshine Summit Volunteer Fire Departments for three brush fire engines



**Bob Jacobs with the Friends of the Fallbrook Library.**



**Sunshine Summit volunteer firefighters.**

- ♦ \$100,000 - Friends of the Fallbrook Library for land purchase.
- ♦ \$50,000 - Lifeline Community Services to hire a grant writer to acquire funding for transitional housing for children aging out of the foster care system
- ♦ \$33,500 - College of Borrego Foundation, Anza Borrego Institute for Environmental Education and Borrego Springs Children's Center for education programs, equipment, supplies and playground equipment
- ♦ \$31,500 - Fallbrook Village Association for roof repairs at the Art and Cultural Center
- ♦ \$26,000 - Fallbrook Senior Citizens Center for a new roof

- ♦ \$15,000 - Matching funds to Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council for beautification of Questhaven Trails

- ♦ \$14,000 - Fallbrook Chamber for computer updates, flags for patriotic events and other family special events activities

- ♦ \$13,200 - Montezuma Valley Volunteer Fire Department for engine repairs

- ♦ \$12,500 - Vista Historical Society for digitized preservation of 1926-1990 newspapers

- ♦ \$10,000 - Veterans Museum and Memorial Center for computer upgrades and additions



**Veterans Museum Director Rod Melendez.**

### Good stuff from the 5th district . . .

- ♦ John Daley's historic Café 101 in Oceanside, the oldest café on Highway 101 signed an agreement with a Japanese clothing company to use its logo

- ♦ The San Diego Task Force on

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services awarded \$40,526 to the Elfin Forest VFD for a new brush engine outfitting project and \$11,500 to the North County FPD for a new thermal imaging

camera for the community of Rainbow

- ♦ The \$103,000 Vine Street sidewalk project from Community Development Block Grants is now completed in Fallbrook

## San Diego County Veteran of the Year

Congratulations to **Darcy Pavich** who was selected from 39 nominees as San Diego County Veteran of the Year 2003-2004. Darcy is a former Navy Chaplain and volunteer chap-

lain for the Veterans Village of San Diego. Supervisor Horn, a Marine Corps Captain during the Vietnam War was a finalist for the Veteran of the Year award.

## Horn Inducted into Faith Hall of Fame

On a night filled with "Amen's" and Gospel music, the Faith Based Community Development Corporation held its first annual Celebration of Faith Awards Show at the Star Theater in Oceanside. Executive Director of the agency, Daniel Scott said the event recognized people who go out of their way to uphold their faith.

**Supervisor Horn** was presented the **President's Award** and was among six people inducted into the Faith Hall of Fame that honored community members who exemplify the ideals of their faith. Other "Hall of Famers":



**Rob Howard, President, NAACP, Pastor Gerald Johnson holding grandson Xavier, and Supervisor Horn**

**Church:** The **Rev. Gerald Johnson**, City of Refuge church

"The work of volunteer groups throughout our country represents the very heart and soul of America.

They have helped make this the most compassionate, generous, and humane society that ever existed on the face of this earth."

Ronald Reagan  
October 16, 1973

**Community Volunteer:** The **Rev. Terri Cook**, VP of Community Ambassadors CDG

**Public Service:** **Robert Osby**, Oceanside fire chief

**Elected Official:** **Jack Feller**, Oceanside councilman

**Business:** **Rick Monroe**, publisher of Good News, Etc.

## Supervisor Horn to spearhead new Business Advocacy Campaign

Supervisor Horn has been selected by the San Diego North Economic Development Council's Business Retention and Advocacy Program to lead the group in bringing economic relief and growth to local businesses.

In the months to come look for new opportunities for the public to get more involved iwth business legislation.

### Supervisor **BILL HORN**

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*Serving North County with Integrity and Accountability*

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